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BOROUGH OF LAMPETER

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 1968



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

W. J. St. E-G. Rhys, M.A., M.B., B.S., B.Sc., M.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

D. H. Cowles, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

(i)

BOROUGH OF LAMPETER

Mayor 1967/68

Mayor 1968/69

Alderman, Rev.Father G. Fitzgerald

Alderman L. V. Wiseman

The Council consists of 16 members including
the Mayor

HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Chairman 1967/68

Chairman 1968/69

Councillor D. R. Timothy

Councillor Mrs. J. I. Lewis

Town Clerk: D. Llewelyn Evans, Esq.,
Town Hall,
LAMPETER.

Telephone: Lampeter 426

(ii)

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Members of
Lampeter Borough Council

PREFACE

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Public Health Department for the year which ended on the 31 December, 1968.

The number of live births registered during the year was twenty-six, representing an increase of two over the figure for the previous year. There were no registered stillbirths, and no infant was registered as having died before reaching the first birthday. No woman died as a result of pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

The number of registered deaths was forty, a decrease of four from the previous year. Thirteen people died of heart disease, twelve of 'Stroke' and five of cancer.

The only notification of the occurrence of infectious disease received during 1968 related to one case of measles. Two new cases of tuberculosis were notified but no person died of the disease.

In 1965 a proposal to inquire into the alleged abuse of antibiotics in animals and poultry was made (Anderson and Lewis) and this proposal received the support of two editorials in the British Medical Journal during that year. Soon afterwards the Netherthorpe Committee representing the Medical Research Council and the Agricultural Research Council recommended that an inquiry should be made into the use of antibiotics in livestock, and this recommendation was accepted by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture in 1967.

(iii)

Professor M. M. Swann, F.R.S., the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of Edinburgh University was nominated as chairman of this review body whose terms of reference were " to obtain information about the present and prospective use of antibiotics in animal husbandry and veterinary medicine, with particular reference to the phenomenon of infective drug resistance, to consider the implications for animal husbandry and also for human and animal health, and to make recommendations".

The recommendations of the Swann review body are awaited with great interest for they will be of the utmost importance in the field of human health. Especial significance will be attached as to whether or not the case for prohibiting the systemic administration of chloramphenicol, ampicillin and neomycin to livestock is upheld, since preservation of sensitivity to these antibiotics is vital to human health.

A more detailed account of the work of the Public Health Department, including a section by the Public Health Inspector, will be found in the following pages.

References

- Anderson, E. S. and Lewis, M. J. (1965) Nature (Lond.) 206, 579.
Brit.med.J. (1965) 1, 1325.
Brit.med.J. (1965) 2, 1260.

At Ffwr, Henaduriaid ac Aelodau Cyngor
Bwrdeisdref Llanbedr-Pont-Steffan

RHAGAIR

Y mae'n bleser gennyf gyflwyno Adroddiad Blynnyddol yr Adran Iechyd Cyhoeddus am y flwyddyn a orffennodd a'r 31 Rhagfyr, 1968.

Nifer y rhai a gofrestrwyd yn fyw ar eu genedigaeith yn ystod y flwyddyn oedd chwech-ar-hugain, dau yn fwy na'r flwyddyn flaenorol. Ni chofrestrwyd un marw-anedig nac ychwaith marwolaeth un baban cyn cyrraedd un-mlwydd oed. Ni fu un fenyw farw oherwydd ei bod yn feichiog, nac wrth eni plentyn, na thrwy erthyliad.

Cofrestrwyd pedwar-deg o farwolaethau, pedwar yn llai na'r flwyddyn cynt. Bu farw un-deg-tri o glefyd y galon, pump o'r cancer a deuddeg o'r strôc.

Yr unig ddigwyddiad a nodwyd o glefyd heintus yn ystod 1968 oedd un o achos: o'r frech goch. Nodwyd dau ddigwyddiad newydd o'r ddarfodedigaeth yn ystod y flwyddyn, ond ni bu farw un person o'r clefyd hwn.

Yn 1965 cynigwyd gwneud ymchwiliad i'r honiad y rhoddid gormod o feddyginiaeth wrthfiotig i anifeiliaid a ddefnod a chafodd y cynnig hwn gefnogaeth dwy erthygl olygyddol yn y Cylchgrawn Meddygol Prydeinig y flwyddyn honno. Yn fuan wedyn cymeradwyodd Pwyllgor Netherthorpe sy'n cynrychioli y Cyngor Ymchwiliad Meddygol a'r Cyngor Ymchwiliad Amaethyddol y dylid gwneud ymchwiliad i'r defnydd a wneir o feddyginiaeth wrthfiotig i anifeiliaid stor a derbynwyd yr argymelliad hwn gan y Weinyddiaeth Iechyd a'r Weinyddiaeth Amaethyddiaeth yn 1967.

Enwebwyd yr Athro M. M. Swann, F.R.S., Prifathro ac Is-Canghellor Prifysgol Caeredin yn gadeirydd y Corff adolygiadol hwn gyda'r

/cyfarwyddiadau

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cyfarwyddiadau canlynol - "i gasglu gwybodaeth ynglyn a'r defnydd a wneir yn bresennol ac a fwriedir ei wneud yn y dyfodol o'r feddyginiaeth wrthfietig yn hwsmonaeth anifeiliaid a meddion milfeddygol gyda golwg arbennig ar ffenomen gwrthsafiad i gyffur sy'n cynnwys haint, i ystyried ynhlygiadau'r arferiad a all effeithio hwsmonaeth anifeiliaid, ac hefyd iechyd dyn ac anifail, ac i wneud argymellion".

Disgwylir yn eiddgar am argymellion y Pwyllgor hwn oherwydd ei ddylanwad ar astudeithiau meddygol. Rhoddir sylw arbennig i'w ddyfarniad ar y cwestiwn holl bwysig - a ddylid rhoddi 'chloramphenicol', 'ampicillin', a 'neomycin' i anifeiliaid yn gyson neu beidio. Beth bynnag, y mae diogelu gallu cyfansoddiad dyn i adweithio'n foddhaol i feddyginiaeth wrthfietig yn hanfodol.

Ceir manylion pellach o waith yr Adran Iechyd Cyhoeddus yn cynnwys cyfran gan yr Archwiliwr Iechyd Cyhoeddus yn y tudalennau canlynol.

Cyfarwyddiadau

Anderson, E. S. and Lewis, M. J. (1965) Nature (Lond.) 206, 579.

Brit.med.J. (1965) 1, 1325.

Brit.med.J. (1965) 2, 1260.

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
<u>1. LIVEBIRTHS</u>			
Total	22	24	26
Leg:	22	24	26
Illeg:	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 population (crude)	10.6	11.3	12.3
Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	13.5	14.6	15.9
Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales ..	17.7	17.2	16.9
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	0	0	0
<u>2. STILLBIRTHS</u>			
Total	0	1	0
Leg:	0	1	0
Illeg:	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	0	40.0	0
Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths England and Wales	15.4	14.8	14.0
<u>3. TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS</u>			
	22	25	26
<u>4. PERI-NATAL DEATHS</u> (Stillbirths plus early neo-natal deaths)			
Total	0	1	0
Leg:	0	1	0
Illeg:	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	0	40.0	0
<u>5. EARLY NEO-NATAL DEATHS</u> (deaths under one week)			
Total	0	0	0
Leg:	0	0	0
Illeg:	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live births	0	0	0
<u>6. NEO-NATAL DEATHS</u> (deaths under four weeks)			
Total	0	0	0
Leg:	0	0	0
Illeg:	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live births	0	0	0
<u>7. INFANT DEATHS</u> (total deaths under one year)			
Total	0	0	0
Leg:	0	0	0
Illeg:	0	0	0

1966 1967 1968

7. INFANT DEATHS (CONTINUED)

Rate per 1,000 total live births	0	0	0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate			
live births ..	0	0	0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate			
live births	0	0	0

8. MATERNAL DEATHS

Number of deaths	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	0	0	0

DEATHS

Total	31	44	40
Rate per 1,000 population (crude)	14.9	20.6	18.9
Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	10.0	15.1	11.5
Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales ..	11.7	11.2	11.9

Area comparability factor for births	1.28	1.30	1.30
Area comparability factor for deaths	0.67	0.73	0.61

POPULATION STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	1,754
Population (census 1961).....	1,855
Population (Registrar General's Estimated Mid-Year Population for 1968).....	2,120

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Headings with no deaths allocated are omitted)

<u>Causes of death</u>	<u>Number of Deaths</u>		
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	2	-	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	-	2	2
Hypertensive Disease	1	1	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	7	3	10
Other Forms of Heart Disease	2	1	3
Cerebrovascular Disease	1	11	12
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	3	1	4
Pneumonia	1	-	1
Bronchitis and Emphysema	1	-	1
Peptic Ulcer	1	-	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	1	1
<u>TOTAL</u>	19	21	40

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a list of the notifications of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, received during the year:-

Diphtheria	Nil
Dysentery (amoebic and bacillary)	Nil
Encephalitis	Nil
Erysipelas	Nil
Food Poisoning	Nil
Measles.. .. .	1
Meningococcal meningitis	Nil
Paratyphoid fever	Nil
Pneumonia (acute primary and acute influenzal) ..	Nil
Poliomyelitis	Nil
Relapsing fever	Nil
Scarlet fever	Nil
Smallpox	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the sex and age distribution of the new cases notified during the year:-

AGE GROUP	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
5 - 14	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	2	-	-	-
65 +	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	-	-	-

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH
SERVICES IN THE AREA

These remain essentially the same as in previous years, and are under the control of the County Council.

SECTION 47 OF THE NATIONAL
ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

No action was required to be taken under this section during the year.

W. J. St. E.-G. RHYS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1968

1. SEWERAGE

The area is drained on the partially separate system. Wherever possible surface water is excluded from the general system and is disposed of through soakaways. Most of the town's sewers are relatively modern being constructed of stoneware, concrete, cast iron and latterly of pitch-fibre and U.P.V.C. in diameters ranging from 6 inches to 21 inches. Flows in excess of 6 times dry weather flow are discharged through storm overflow chambers into watercourses.

During the year, 268 yards of 4 inch rising main sewer were laid from North Road to the site occupied by Messrs. Greens Agricultural Limited adjoining Tregaron Road. As this site is below the level of the main sewer it was necessary to construct a pumping chamber and install a "Simplex" ejector unit. At the same time the Council also assumed responsibility for the ejector unit serving Messrs. Slimma's factory at the same location.

The Falcondale Drive sewer was also extended by 167 yards of 6 inch diameter pitch-fibre to serve developments in that area. If development continues in this area it will be necessary to sewer by some alternative means as the existing sewer will then become inadequate.

2. SEWAGE DISPOSAL

No significant alterations were carried out at the Council's sewage disposal works which operates on the activated sludge principle, and my remarks of previous years still apply. The average daily flow of sewage passing through the plant was 98,676 gallons with a maximum of 456,000 gallons and a minimum of 34,000 gallons. The highest flow of storm water occurred on 11th October when 4,600,000 gallons were recorded.

Effluent sampling is regularly carried out by both Officers of the South West Wales Rivers Authority and by myself for analysis by the Public Analyst in order to ensure that the plant is producing effluent to Royal Commission Standards. In the case of outlying properties which are not served by sewer, cesspools are emptied on request by a cesspool emptier owned by an adjoining authority and the cost recovered from the individual owners.

3. WATER SUPPLY

The Cardiganshire Water Board is the supply authority for the area. During the year four samples for bacteriological examination were taken. All were reported to be satisfactory.

4. DRAINAGE AND NEW BUILDINGS

Number of plans submitted under Building Regulations ..	36
Number of plans approved under Building Regulations ..	36
Number with drainage	16
Number tested and approved	16

5. PUBLIC CLEANSING

There has not been any change in the method of collection or disposal since my last report. During the year the Council's Health and Housing Committee considered a report of mine on the possible introduction of a paper sack system of collection which set out the advantages and disadvantages of such a scheme. In my view the paper sack system is the only one which can satisfy the demands of hygiene and convenience of service to the householder although it is admitted that such a system is likely to be more costly than that of the existing kerb-side method of collection. Initially the Committee decided to undertake a pilot scheme using this system, but unfortunately this decision was later reversed.

6. VERMINOUS PREMISES

Again there were no cases reported.

7. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

I have nothing to add since my last report.

8. OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are none registered within the Borough.

9. SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

One dealer in the area remains on the register, but he operates without a depot and no problems have arisen.

10. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The Medical Officer of Health did not require action to be taken by me in any case.

11. FOOD POISONING

There were not any cases notified during the year.

12. ICE-CREAM

There is one manufacturer in the area. Six samples were taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination. All were reported to be grade one. Three samples from other retailers were also submitted with the same result.

13. MILK

There is one registered producer/retailer in the area. Four samples were taken from his supply and submitted for examination for Brucella Abortus. All proved to be negative.

14. SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The public Slaughterhouse at Llanfair Road supplies the requirements of the Borough as well as a large part of the surrounding area. During the year an automatic pig dehairing machine was installed which has had the effect of speeding up the rate of through put. Also during the year electro-lethalers were installed in both the sheep and pig slaughtering rooms.

The following table shows the through-put for each of the past five years. It will be noticed that this year the through-put is somewhat lower than usual. This, I believe, was due to the economic aftermath of the great epidemic of foot and mouth disease which occurred in the winter of 1967/68.

	<u>Steers</u>	<u>Cows and Heifers</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Total</u>
1963	1,064		16	6,872	1,364	9,316
1964	929		12	7,429	1,157	9,527
1965	923		19	9,276	2,271	12,489
1966	965		15	10,818	2,138	13,936
1967	991		12	10,514	1,935	13,452
1968	836		3	8,937	2,087	11,834

15. MEAT INSPECTION

One hundred per cent inspection is carried out. During my absence local veterinary surgeons act as relief inspectors.

Number of animals killed and inspected:

Cattle	836
Calves	3
Sheep	8,937
Pigs	2,087

Meat and Offal Conderned

<u>Tuberculosis only</u>	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Carcass and all organs	Nil	Nil
Lungs	Nil	Nil
Head and Tongue	Nil	6

Diseases other than Tuberculosis

Cattle

3 Whole carcasses	Pathological Emaciation
7 Heads and Tongues	Actinobacillosis
356 Livers or parts	Distomatosis
24 Lungs	Pneumonia
17 Hearts	Pericarditis

Sheep

7 Whole carcasses	Pathological Emaciation
4 Whole carcasses	Generalised Oedema
2 Whole carcasses	Pyrexia
2 Whole carcasses	Bruising and Laceration
1 Whole carcass	Moribund Condition
463 Livers	Distomatosis
67 Lungs	Cystic

Pigs

1 Whole carcass	Generalised Oedema
50 lbs, carcass meat	Bruising and Laceration
61 lbs, carcass meat	Abscesses
34 Hearts and Lungs	Pericarditis and Pneumonia

16. FOOD INSPECTION AND HYGIENE

The following goods were condemned as being unfit for human consumption and were surrendered to me and destroyed:-

Canned Ham	42 lbs.
Canned Fruit	80 Cans
Canned Meat and Fish	15 Cans
Canned Vegetables	37 Cans
Canned Milk and Cream	21 Cans
Frozen Meat and Poultry	1,709 lbs.
Ice-cream	60 lbs.

17. MARKETS

The Council owns a centrally sited market which is leased to a local firm of auctioneers. During the year a new building to house pigs was erected. The principal marts are held on Mondays and Tuesdays of alternate weeks. Cleansing of the mart is carried out by the Council's staff. On mart days stall holders are also allowed to pitch their stalls on the Common Car Park and St. Thomas Street.

18. HOUSING

Number of dwellings in the area	708
Number of Council owned dwellings	136
Number of Houses completed during the year:	
(a) Council	0
(b) Private	22
Number of Houses under construction at end of year:	
(a) Council	0
(b) Private	1

Housing Need

During the year ten families from the waiting list were allocated houses. At the end of the year forty names remained on the waiting list.

Improvement Grants

(a) Discretionary

Number of applications received	2
Number of applications approved	2
Number of applications completed	4
Amount paid in grant	£1,430

(b) Standard

Number of applications received	3
Number of applications approved	3
Number of applications completed	1
Amount paid in grant	£155

Up-to-date the Borough Council has paid in grant the total of £19,752.

19. MOVABLE DWELLINGS

There is one authorised caravan site in the area which is licensed for twelve caravans.

20. OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following table shows the work carried out to the end of the year:-

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number registered at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	-	36	5
Retail Shops	-	50	1
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	Nil	Nil	Nil
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	9	3
Fuel Storage depots	Nil	Nil	Nil

Number of Exemptions	Nil
Number of Prosecutions	Nil

21. CIVIC AMENITIES ACT 1967

During the year it was found necessary to invoke the provisions of this act to secure the removal of two cars which had apparently been abandoned.

22. RODENT CONTROL

The Council does not employ a full-time operator. This work is a part-time duty carried out by a member of the Council's staff.

Sewerage System

Four sewer treatments were given during the year when very little evidence of infestation was found.

Refuse Tip and Slaughterh use

As both these properties are at continuous risk, frequent baiting is carried out.

Generally

Number of properties inspected following notification	30
Number found infested by rats	10

/23. Factories Inspection

23. FACTORIES INSPECTION

(1) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspection (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which section 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	24	32	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities (excluding out-workers)	1	5	Nil	Nil

(2) Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Sanitary conveniences</u> (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including Offences relating to out-workers)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil

24. CONCLUSION

I would like to record my appreciation of the co-operation extended to me by the Council as a whole, its Officers and particularly by my assistant Mr. R. H. Owen.

D. H. COWLES,
M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., A.F.S.
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Health Department,
Town Hall,
LAMPETER.

